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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

NOVEMBER, 1985

RELEASE DATE:
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LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1985				REVISED OCTOBER 1985				REVISED NOVEMBER 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1983.2	1765.1	218.1	11.0	2025.8	1804.4	221.4	10.9	1937.9	1751.4	186.5	9.6
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	64.2	58.6	5.6	8.8	65.6	59.9	5.7	8.7	62.4	57.4	5.0	7.9
Baton Rouge 2/	264.2	238.1	26.1	9.9	266.5	239.7	26.8	10.1	254.0	232.6	21.4	8.4
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	83.5	74.7	8.8	10.6	85.7	76.5	9.2	10.8	86.1	78.0	8.1	9.4
Lafayette 4/	110.1	100.3	9.8	8.9	112.9	102.5	10.4	9.2	112.3	103.0	9.3	8.3
Lake Charles 5/	73.7	64.1	9.6	13.0	75.2	65.2	10.0	13.3	75.8	66.9	8.9	11.7
Monroe 6/	64.7	58.6	6.1	9.4	65.7	59.7	6.0	9.2	62.5	57.0	5.5	8.8
New Orleans 7/	574.1	512.8	61.3	10.7	583.8	519.8	64.0	11.0	572.0	517.4	54.6	9.6
Shreveport 8/	164.1	147.0	17.1	10.4	168.8	152.8	16.0	9.5	160.8	149.6	11.2	7.0

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,596,700 for November, a decrease of 2,000 from October's level and 14,200 lower than November a year ago. The durable goods segment of manufacturing accounted for most of the decrease. Lower employment in construction and government contributed most to the decrease in nonmanufacturing.

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During November, total employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing decreased by 1,900 workers. A decrease in the production of primary nonferrous metals was most significant in the lower level of employment for primary metal industries. Employment in the machinery, except electrical, industry was down in part due to decreased production of general industrial machinery. Further layoffs in the communication equipment sector resulted in an employment drop for the electrical and electronic equipment industry. Transportation equipment employment was lower due to less activity at the state's shipyards and decreased production of motor vehicles and equipment.

Total nondurable goods employment for November, at 94,900, was up by 500 over the October level, but a drop of 4,900 workers from November a year ago. A seasonal increase in food and kindred products payrolls due to increased sugarcane processing primarily accounted for the upward turn in nondurable goods employment. Less production of industrial inorganic chemicals was responsible for the decline in chemicals and allied products payrolls.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during November was 1,423,500, down by 600 from the October level. Mining employment was lower due to decreased production of crude petroleum and natural gas. Employment was lower throughout the construction industry for November, especially for general building contractors and special trades. Transportation and public utilities employment held steady at last month's level. Employment increases throughout much of retail trade, especially seasonal increases in general merchandise, apparel and accessories stores, accounted for most of the gain experienced by trade for the current month. An increase in real estate payrolls was most significant in the higher employment level exhibited by the finance, insurance and real estate segment of nonmanufacturing. Business services and miscellaneous services were among the segments contributing to the downturn in services employment. Government employment in November was down due in large part to a decrease in local government except education, payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 122,100 production workers in manufacturing increased from $436.80 in October to $477.96 in November, an increase of $41.16 and an increase of $50.82 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were $0.88 higher in November than last month and $1.21 more than November of last year. Weekly hours averaged 42.0 for the current month, an increase of 0.4 hours from last month's average of 41.6 hours.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for November amounted to 218,100, a decrease of 3,300 from the October level of 221,400. The unemployment rate for November was 11.0 percent, an increase of 0.1 percentage points above last month's rate and 1.4 percentage points higher than November of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for November was 6.7 percent compared to 6.8 percent in October and 6.9 percent in November of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force decreased from 2,025,800 in October to 1,983,200 in November a decrease of 42,600. Total employment, at 1,765,100, was down by 39,300 from last month but 13,700 higher than November a year ago.

Louisiana's unemployment rate should be lower next month. Retail trade employment should continue upward in response to holiday shopping. Construction and mining employment may fall as a result of winter weather. Manufacturing payrolls may be lower in December.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Quachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change from October	Net Change from November
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,596.7	1,598.7	1,610.9	- 2.0	-14.2
MINING	77.2	77.7	82.3	- 0.5	- 5.1
Oil and Gas Extraction	73.8	74.3	79.2	- 0.5	- 5.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.4	3.4	3.1	0	+ 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	112.8	114.7	115.9	- 1.9	- 3.1
MANUFACTURING	173.2	174.6	185.1	- 1.4	-11.9
Durable Goods	78.3	80.2	85.3	- 1.9	- 7.0
Lumber and Wood Products	13.1	13.0	13.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Furniture and Fixtures	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.5	7.5	8.2	0	- 0.7
Primary Metal Industries	3.6	3.8	3.6	- 0.2	0
Fabricated Metal Products	12.3	12.4	12.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.4	9.6	10.0	- 0.2	- 0.6
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	7.6	8.9	11.4	- 1.3	- 3.8
Transportation Equipment	21.2	21.5	22.6	- 0.3	- 1.4
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.7	2.6	2.7	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	94.9	94.4	99.8	+ 0.5	- 4.9
Food & Kindred Products	22.4	21.6	23.0	+ 0.8	- 0.6
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.2	9.1	9.5	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Paper & Allied Products	10.9	10.8	11.8	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Printing & Publishing	10.1	10.2	10.1	- 0.1	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	26.8	27.3	28.6	- 0.5	- 1.8
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.8	11.8	13.0	0	- 1.2
Petroleum Refining	11.0	11.0	12.0	0	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	3.7	3.6	3.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	114.8	114.8	118.5	0	- 3.7
Railroad Transportation	7.1	7.1	7.4	0	- 0.3
Transportation, ex. Railroads	66.4	66.3	69.0	+ 0.1	- 2.6
Communication & Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Ser.	41.3	41.4	42.1	- 0.1	- 0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	388.0	384.3	384.9	+ 3.7	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	94.3	93.8	94.7	+ 0.5	- 0.4
Retail Trade	293.7	290.5	290.2	+ 3.2	+ 3.5
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	62.0	60.2	60.9	+ 1.8	+ 1.1
Food Stores	56.5	55.9	54.0	+ 0.6	+ 2.5
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	32.7	33.1	32.5	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	86.4	85.7	86.9	+ 0.7	- 0.5
Other Retail Trade	56.1	55.6	55.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.5	84.2	83.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Banking	27.4	27.4	27.4	0	0
SERVICES	318.6	319.2	314.9	- 0.6	+ 3.7
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	21.5	21.5	22.7	0	- 1.2
Other Services	297.1	297.7	292.2	- 0.6	+ 4.9
GOVERNMENT	327.6	329.2	326.1	- 1.6	+ 1.5
Federal	35.4	35.1	34.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
State and Local	292.2	294.1	291.6	- 1.9	+ 0.6
State	100.4	100.8	101.3	- 0.4	- 0.9
Local	191.8	193.3	190.3	- 1.5	+ 1.5

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**
ALL MANUFACTURING (1)	$477.96	$436.80	$427.14	42.0	41.6	42.0	$11.38	$10.50	$10.17
Durable Goods	397.31	402.14	391.64	41.3	41.5	41.4	9.62	9.69	9.46
Lumber & Wood Products	307.68	317.56	315.17	38.8	39.4	39.2	7.93	8.06	8.04
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	398.65	401.82	366.74	41.7	43.3	42.3	9.56	9.28	8.67
Fabricated Metal Products	409.25	422.42	388.92	44.1	44.7	42.0	9.28	9.45	9.26
Machinery, ex. Electrical	395.50	420.04	398.34	40.9	42.6	40.4	9.67	9.86	9.86
Electric & Electronic Equip.	494.12	475.07	443.30	44.0	41.6	42.3	11.23	11.42	10.48
Transportation Equipment	446.76	438.60	437.38	40.8	40.8	40.8	10.95	10.75	10.72
Nondurable Goods	471.84	469.54	462.21	42.7	41.7	42.6	11.05	11.26	11.85
Food & Kindred Products	304.50	288.95	282.76	42.0	39.8	41.4	7.25	7.26	6.83
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	189.55	184.44	194.80	35.9	34.8	40.0	5.28	5.30	4.87
Paper & Allied Products	574.21	573.27	571.95	43.9	44.2	44.2	13.08	12.97	12.94
Printing & Publishing	391.60	383.50	359.42	40.0	39.7	38.4	9.79	9.66	9.36
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	643.26	645.82	655.16	43.7	42.6	44.0	14.72	15.16	14.89
Petroleum & Coal Products	711.50	716.38	669.29	48.6	49.0	47.4	14.64	14.62	14.12
Petroleum Refining	745.50	739.54	689.27	50.0	49.6	47.7	14.91	14.91	14.45
MINING	553.66	559.54	532.33	49.7	50.5	47.7	11.14	11.08	11.16
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	510.47	490.07	478.78	41.2	39.3	39.7	12.39	12.47	12.06
BANKING	248.34	249.95	240.03	37.4	37.7	38.1	6.64	6.63	6.30

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 122,100 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 103,300 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 11 85				REVISED 10 85			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	25,375	22,425	2,950	11.6	26,550	23,375	3,175	12.0
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	6,800	5,525	1,275	18.7	6,950	5,675	1,275	18.3
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	11,650	10,175	1,475	12.7	11,950	10,425	1,525	12.8
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	13,775	11,175	2,600	18.9	14,050	11,500	2,550	18.1
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	13,025	11,675	1,350	10.3	13,300	11,850	1,450	11.0
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	7,950	7,100	850	10.7	8,075	7,250	825	10.1
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	5,525	5,025	500	9.0	5,700	5,200	500	8.7
CAMERON (CAMERON)	5,150	4,675	475	9.1	5,525	5,075	450	8.2
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	6,200	5,250	950	15.4	6,425	5,525	900	14.1
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,750	7,075	675	8.6	7,875	7,200	675	8.5
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,675	8,975	1,700	16.0	10,975	9,325	1,650	14.9
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,775	12,025	1,750	12.7	13,950	12,275	1,675	12.0
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	5,400	4,650	750	14.0	5,825	5,175	650	11.3
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,650	7,650	1,000	11.6	8,900	7,825	1,075	12.2
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	15,050	12,975	2,075	13.8	15,650	13,600	2,050	13.1
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	9,225	7,700	1,525	16.6	9,625	8,250	1,375	14.2
COLFAX (GRANT)	4,125	3,375	750	18.2	4,125	3,425	700	17.1
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	36,500	32,575	3,925	10.8	37,025	32,950	4,075	11.0
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	16,025	13,975	2,050	12.7	16,700	14,475	2,225	13.4
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	6,900	6,225	675	9.6	7,050	6,400	650	9.1
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	13,575	11,725	1,850	13.6	14,350	12,400	1,950	13.5
JENA (LASALLE)	7,000	6,325	675	9.6	7,325	6,600	725	9.9
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	23,150	22,075	1,075	4.6	23,450	22,450	1,000	4.3
TALLULAH (MADISON)	6,200	5,300	900	14.4	6,625	5,750	875	13.2
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	13,550	11,525	2,025	15.0	13,625	11,950	1,675	12.3
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	18,000	16,175	1,825	10.1	18,525	16,800	1,725	9.4
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	14,800	13,650	1,150	7.8	15,250	14,100	1,150	7.6
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	13,950	12,375	1,575	11.3	14,750	13,100	1,650	11.1
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,825	4,325	500	10.5	4,975	4,500	475	9.5
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,525	8,275	1,250	13.2	9,700	8,675	1,025	10.6
MANY (SABINE)	9,100	7,975	1,125	12.2	9,300	8,200	1,100	11.9
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	4,550	4,075	475	10.2	4,875	4,400	475	9.8
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	10,375	8,875	1,500	14.4	10,450	8,850	1,600	15.3
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	35,525	29,625	5,900	16.6	36,700	30,750	5,950	16.2
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	34,775	30,400	4,375	12.6	35,650	31,225	4,425	12.4
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	37,775	32,250	5,525	14.6	38,650	32,925	5,725	14.8
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,425	3,075	350	10.2	3,775	3,500	275	7.2
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,200	7,250	950	11.5	8,150	7,275	875	10.8
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	25,875	22,675	3,200	12.3	27,050	23,850	3,200	11.8
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	13,150	11,825	1,325	10.1	13,375	11,975	1,400	10.5
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	15,675	13,325	2,350	15.0	16,200	13,800	2,400	14.8
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	17,000	14,475	2,525	14.9	17,025	14,725	2,300	13.5
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	5,150	4,175	975	18.7	5,400	4,575	825	15.2
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	3,925	3,500	425	10.9	4,125	3,650	475	11.3
WINNFIELD (WINN)	6,000	5,425	575	9.6	6,075	5,500	575	9.4

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.9	45.7	45.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
MANUFACTURING	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
MINING	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.0	3.1	2.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.5	11.4	11.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Retail Trade	9.2	9.1	9.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	1.8	1.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.5	2.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Retail Trade	3.7	3.7	3.7	0	0
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
SERVICES	10.0	9.9	9.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Health Services	4.1	4.0	4.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	12.8	12.7	12.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Federal	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
State and Local	10.3	10.2	10.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
State	5.2	5.1	5.3	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Local	5.1	5.1	5.1	0	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria Metropolitan Statistical Area was estimated at 45,900 during November. The estimate was 200 more than October and 400 more than November of last year.

Estimated employment in manufacturing during November totaled 3,500. This estimate was unchanged since the past month and the same as November of last year.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,400 during November. This is 200 more than the previous month and 400 more than last November. Changes since last month reflect gains in retail trade, services, government and a decline in the number of construction workers. Compared to November of last year, employment in construction, retail trade, services have increased and state government has declined.

Seasonal changes are anticipated during the next thirty days with employment in retail sales increasing and outdoor related employment being hampered by the weather. The number of unemployed should rise, with little change in the total number of employed.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	221.0	220.4	219.1	+ 0.6	+ 1.9
MANUFACTURING	20.6	20.5	21.8	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Durable Goods	4.1	4.1	4.2	0	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	0.8	0.8	1.0	0	- 0.2
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	16.5	16.4	17.6	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	2.1	2.0	2.3	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Printing & Publishing	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	11.6	11.7	12.6	- 0.1	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.1	1.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
MINING	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	26.0	26.2	23.8	- 0.2	+ 2.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.9	10.7	10.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	52.9	52.4	53.8	+ 0.5	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	10.8	10.7	11.1	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Retail Trade	42.1	41.7	42.7	+ 0.4	- 0.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.6	13.6	13.4	0	+ 0.2
SERVICES	40.4	40.2	40.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	55.3	55.5	54.5	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Federal	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
State and Local	53.3	53.5	52.5	- 0.2	+ 0.8
State	32.8	32.8	31.7	0	+ 1.1
Local	20.5	20.7	20.8	- 0.2	- 0.3

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$532.64	$534.80	$512.90	46.6	43.8	42.6	$11.43	$12.21	$12.04
Petro-Chemicals	708.10	709.35	701.53	48.7	47.8	46.8	14.54	14.84	14.99

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment ir the Baton Rouge LMA at 221,000 during November was up 600 over October's revised estimate and up 1,900 over the total for last November. Marufacturing was up 100 and nonmanufacturing was up 500.

Estimated employment in manufacturing at 20,600 during November was up 100 from October's revised estimate. Durable goods had no change during the current period. Nondurable goods was up due to seasonal increases in sugar and confectionery products and in miscellaneous apparel and accessories; however, chemicals and petroleum products were down due to closing of a local industrial organic chemicals plant.

Employment in nonmanufacturing at 200,400 during November was up 500 over October's revised total. Mining had no change during the current period. Construction was down due to less business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings, in miscellaneous special trade contractor and in electrical works. Transportation and public utilities were up due to more business in trucking, local and long distance, in services incidental to water transportation and in sanitary services. Seasonal gains took place in wholesale and retail trade. Finance, insurance and real estate had no change. Services were up due to more business in hotels, motel and tourist courts, in personnel supply services, in miscellaneous repair shops and related services and residential care. Government was down due to budget problems in local government.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,900 production workers in all manufacturing was $532.64, down $1.25 from October's revised average. Average weekly hours were up 0.9 hours and average hourly earnings were down $0.30 during the current period due to a longer scheduled work week and more overtime by lower paid employees.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 238,100 during November, down 1,600 from October's revised estimate and up 5,500 over the total for last November. Unemployment at 26,100 during November was down 700 during the current period. November's unemployment rate was 9.9 percent, down from October's revised 10.1 percent. The statewide rate was 11.0 percent during November. The Baton Rouge LMA civilian labor force totaled 264,200 during the current period.

Seasonal factors should continue to hold the high employment level with little change in unemployment.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,075 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 537 applicants in jobs during November.

The consumer price index for October, 1985 for all urban consumers was 325.5 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 321.3 using base period 1967=100.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	60.4	60.3	63.6	+ 0.1	- 3.2
MANUFACTURING	5.8	6.0	6.1	- 0.2	- 0.3
Durable Goods	3.7	4.0	3.9	- 0.3	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	2.1	2.0	2.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
MINING	8.2	8.2	8.5	0	- 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	3.1	2.9	3.5	+ 0.2	- 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.9	6.9	7.4	0	- 0.5
Water Transportation	4.8	4.9	5.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.3	14.2	15.3	+ 0.1	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.2	3.7	0	- 0.5
Retail Trade	11.1	11.0	11.6	+ 0.1	- 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.4	3.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
SERVICES	8.7	8.7	9.3	0	- 0.6
GOVERNMENT	11.0	11.0	11.1	0	- 0.1
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.5	10.5	10.7	0	- 0.2
State	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Local	7.6	7.6	7.8	0	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in November edged up to 60,400, a level only 100 above October. Changes in both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing were minor. Since November of last year, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 3,200 workers.

Manufacturing employment totaled 5,800 in November, down 200 from last month. The decrease was in the durable goods sector where significant cutbacks were reported by area shipyards and producers of fabricated metal products. The increase in the nondurable goods sector was due to seasonal factors in food and kindred products. Compared to this same time last year, manufacturing has decreased 200.

Construction made normal seasonal downward adjustments. More favorably, retail trade pushed up as shopping began for the holiday season. In transportation, a small decrease in water transportation was offset by minor increases in other segments of transportation. Mining held steady. Services showed no change of any significance.

Estimated unemployment in November moved down to 8,800, a level 400 below October. A decrease in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was mainly responsible. Joblessness presently accounts for 10.6 percent of the labor force compared to 10.8 percent in October and 9.4 percent in November of last year. The November rate was slightly lower than the state rate of 11.0 percent, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.7 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance totaled 2,026.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to exhibit normal seasonal changes. In retail trade, shopping for the holiday season is predicted to reach its peak in December and then adjust back downward in January. Construction and mining will be hampered by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably decrease in December and then increase again in January.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	95.0	95.3	99.1	- 0.3	- 4.1
MANUFACTURING	5.8	5.7	6.2	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Durable Goods	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	3.5	3.4	3.8	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
MINING	15.1	15.2	17.5	- 0.1	- 2.4
CONSTRUCTION	5.2	5.5	5.3	- 0.3	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.1	7.1	7.2	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	25.0	24.9	26.3	+ 0.1	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade	6.2	6.3	6.8	- 0.1	- 0.6
Retail Trade	18.8	18.6	19.5	+ 0.2	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.1	2.9	2.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Food Stores	3.3	3.3	3.2	0	+ 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.6	10.6	11.6	0	- 1.0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.0	4.0	4.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	19.1	19.3	19.3	- 0.2	- 0.2
GOVERNMENT	13.7	13.6	13.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Federal	0.9	0.9	0.8	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	12.8	12.7	12.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
State	5.4	5.3	5.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Local	7.4	7.4	7.2	0	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette estimated at 95,000 for November, decreased 300 from the previous month and 4,100 from the same period a year ago. A sluggish economy is responsible for the decrease in employment.

Manufacturing increased 100 from the previous month but fell off 400 from November 1984.

Nonmanufacturing was responsible for the decrease in nonagricultural employment. It stood at 89,200 for November, 89,600 for October, and 92,900 for November 1984.

Mining remained relatively stable from the previous month but fell 3,700 from the same period of time a year ago.

The other segments of the economy showed little or no change.

The unemployment rate in Lafayette will remain about the same for the next month but will probably increase after the first of the year due to weather conditions and the end of the holiday season.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	57.5	57.6	60.9	- 0.1	- 3.4
MANUFACTURING	9.4	9.5	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.7
Durable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.7	8.8	9.3	- 0.1	- 0.6
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.8	7.9	8.4	- 0.1	- 0.6
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	3.4	3.4	4.2	0	- 0.8
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.4	4.4	4.5	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.1	14.1	15.1	0	- 1.0
Wholesale Trade	3.2	3.3	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	10.9	10.8	11.7	+ 0.1	- 0.8
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.2	2.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.4	1.4	1.2	0	+ 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	3.1	3.1	3.6	0	- 0.5
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	10.6	10.6	11.0	0	- 0.4
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.8	0.7	- 0.1	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
GOVERNMENT	10.9	10.9	11.1	0	- 0.2
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
State and Local	10.2	10.2	10.4	0	- 0.2
State	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Local	6.4	6.4	6.5	0	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lake Charles stood at 57,800 for November, decreasing 100 from the previous month and 3,400 lower than November 1985.

Very little fluctuation was shown in manufacturing or nonmanufacturing from the previous month. Large decreases, however, were noted in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing from November 1985.

The outlook is for a small increase in trade employment during the December pre Christmas shopping season. Unemployment should remain about the same for the next month but should increase after the first of the year due to inclement weather and layoffs in retail trade.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	54.8	54.9	54.3	- 0.1	+ 0.5
MANUFACTURING	7.2	7.2	7.2	0	0
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	5.1	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.4	3.4	3.5	0	- 0.1
MINING	0.7	0.8	0.7	- 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	3.5	3.6	3.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	16.8	16.5	16.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.8
Wholesale Trade	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0
Retail Trade	12.5	12.2	11.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.8
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	4.0	3.7	3.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.6	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.2	4.3	4.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
SERVICES	10.5	10.6	10.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.5	4.5	4.4	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	9.3	9.3	9.8	0	- 0.5
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	8.7	8.7	9.2	0	- 0.5
State	4.7	4.7	4.9	0	- 0.2
Local	4.0	4.0	4.3	0	- 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary, estimated at 54,800, was down 100 from the 54,900 estimated for October. The minimal loss was in nonmanufacturing.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,200, was unchanged over the month.

Nonmanufacturing, down minimally to 47,600, was fairly active. Mining and construction each had minimal losses of 100. Wholesale and retail trade showed a gain of 300 as retail stores began hiring extra personnel for the holiday season. Finance, insurance and real estate lost 100 workers, the same loss was experienced in services. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment is expected to remain relatively stable over the next 30 days as trade rises and outdoor activities are curtailed. Unemployment will remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	529.4	530.3	543.3	- 0.9	-13.9
MANUFACTURING	46.6	46.6	48.3	0	- 1.7
Durable Goods	22.8	22.9	24.1	- 0.1	- 1.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.9	1.9	2.7	0	- 0.8
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.1	0	+ 0.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	2.8	2.9	3.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Transportation Equipment	12.5	12.6	12.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.8	7.9	8.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	23.8	23.7	24.2	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	7.5	7.1	7.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.9	2.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.8	3.9	3.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.5	4.6	4.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.8	4.8	5.0	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.3	0.3	0.3	0	0
MINING	19.5	19.5	20.2	0	- 0.7
CONSTRUCTION	31.1	31.7	33.4	- 0.6	- 2.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.6	44.9	47.1	- 0.3	- 2.5
Railroad Transportation	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	14.3	14.8	15.4	- 0.5	- 1.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	144.1	142.3	143.6	+ 1.8	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	34.3	34.5	36.0	- 0.2	- 1.7
Retail Trade	109.8	107.8	107.6	+ 2.0	+ 2.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	31.6	31.5	32.2	+ 0.1	- 0.6
SERVICES	127.7	127.2	131.6	+ 0.5	- 3.9
GOVERNMENT	84.2	86.6	86.9	- 2.4	- 2.7
Federal	15.2	15.0	14.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
State and Local	69.0	71.6	72.2	- 2.6	- 3.2
State	21.4	21.5	21.7	- 0.1	- 0.3
Local	47.6	50.1	50.5	- 2.5	- 2.9

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**
All MANUFACTURING	$438.84	$440.50	$422.91	41.4	41.4	40.9	$10.60	$10.64	$10.34
Durable Goods	395.39	401.30	388.85	40.1	40.7	39.8	9.86	9.86	9.77
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	397.49	399.00	405.32	36.4	38.7	40.9	10.92	10.31	9.91
Fabricated Metal Products	397.25	426.37	406.05	45.4	46.7	46.3	8.75	9.13	8.77
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	379.00	383.29	383.52	37.9	38.1	38.7	10.00	10.06	9.91
Nondurable Goods	479.40	478.80	456.29	42.5	42.0	41.9	11.28	11.40	10.89
Food & Kindred Products	342.14	334.28	321.98	39.6	38.6	39.8	8.64	8.66	8.09
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	163.12	158.13	189.91	32.3	31.5	35.3	5.05	5.02	5.38
Paper & Allied Products	423.10	379.68	399.67	47.7	44.2	46.8	8.87	8.59	8.54
Printing & Publishing	413.85	400.37	375.77	44.5	43.9	40.8	9.30	9.12	9.21
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	659.46	692.56	674.36	42.3	44.0	42.2	15.59	15.74	15.98

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 30,900 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans LMA in November decreased to 529,400, a level 900 below October. Layoffs by local government resulted in an overall downturn, offsetting gains in several industries. Since November 1984, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment lost 13,900 workers, partly reflecting the high level of employment last year brought by the 1984 World's Fair and other industries stimulated by it.

Manufacturing employment totaled 46,600 in November, the same as last month. Seasonal increases in seafood processing and in the sugar industry were offset by scattered minor decreases in both durable and nondurable goods. Employment in manufacturing is down 1,700 compared to this same time last year.

Local government was lowered by layoffs that partly reflected seasonal factors and partly reflected problems of a longer range nature. Construction made normal seasonal downward adjustments. Water transportation moved down to the lowest level in more than ten years. Much more favorably, retail trade benefitted from the opening of a large new shopping center along with an increase in shopping for the holiday season. Services were boosted by seasonal gains in amusement services and the hotel-motel industry. Insurance carriers added workers. Real estate edged up. Mining held steady.

Area production workers earned an average $438.84 a week, down $1.66 from last month. The change was due to a decrease of four cents in average hourly earnings, as average weekly hours remained the same as last month. Compared to one year ago, average weekly earnings increased $15.93.

Estimated unemployment in November decreased to 61,300, down 2,700 from October. A seasonal reduction in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force was partly responsible. Unemployment presently accounts for 10.7 percent of the labor force compared to 11.0 percent in October and 9.6 percent in November of last year. The November rate was slightly lower than the state rate of 11.0 percent, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 6.7 percent. Beneficiaries of regular unemployment insurance numbered 14,215. Approximately 45.0 percent of the climants were nonwhite; about 33.0 percent were female.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months is expected to exhibit typical seasonal changes. In retail trade, shopping for the holiday season will reach its peak in December and then adjust downward in January. Services will be favored by the opening of the Fair Grounds racing season. Less favorably, mining and construction will be hampered by winter weather conditions. Unemployment will probably move down in December and then back up again in January.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	November 1985*	October 1985**	November 1984**	Net Change From October 1985	Net Change From November 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	139.8	143.3	145.0	- 3.5	- 5.2
MANUFACTURING	18.7	19.8	23.2	- 1.1	- 4.5
Durable Goods	14.5	15.6	18.5	- 1.1	- 4.0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Metals and Machinery	8.5	9.7	12.6	- 1.2	- 4.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.9	2.0	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	6.6	7.7	10.2	- 1.1	- 3.6
Other Durable Goods	5.3	5.2	5.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Good	4.2	4.2	4.7	0	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	1.0	1.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.4	1.5	+ 0.1	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.3	0	- 0.3
MINING	4.5	4.7	5.2	- 0.2	- 0.7
CONSTRUCTION	9.1	9.6	8.9	- 0.5	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.9	8.1	8.7	- 0.2	- 0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	35.0	35.0	34.4	0	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.1	9.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	25.8	25.9	25.4	- 0.1	+ 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.9	7.9	7.8	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	30.9	32.5	31.4	- 1.6	- 0.5
GOVERNMENT	25.8	25.7	25.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Federal	4.4	4.5	4.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1
State and Local	21.4	21.2	21.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
State	6.7	6.7	6.6	0	+ 0.1
Local	14.7	14.5	14.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**	Nov. '85*	October '85**	Nov. '84**
All MANUFACTURING	$393.47	$409.50	$425.98	38.5	39.0	41.6	$10.22	$10.50	$10.24
Lumber and Wood Products	278.76	264.45	182.53	42.3	43.0	34.9	6.59	6.15	5.23
Metals and Machinery	433.68	423.63	427.55	41.5	40.5	42.5	10.45	10.46	10.06
Food and Kindred Products	309.55	300.11	275.96	41.0	40.5	37.7	7.55	7.41	7.32
Printing and Publishing	269.35	284.20	253.37	31.8	34.2	32.4	8.47	8.31	7.82
Petroleum and Coal Products	464.30	513.00	457.88	40.8	45.6	40.7	11.38	11.25	11.25

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The total nonagricultural wage and salary employment dropped to 139,800, down 3,500 from the from the revised October estimate, and 5,200 less than one year ago. The manufacturing employment total shows a decline to 18,700, moving down from 19,800 during the past month and 4,500 less than the year ago estimate. The nonmanufacturing employment total of 121,100 is 2,400 less than the revised October estimate, and is 700 below the November, 1984 estimate.

This labor area continues to experience job losses in manufacturing. Employment in metals and machinery manufacturing dropped 1,200 during the past month and is 4,100 below the year ago estimate. Reduced demands for the production of communication equipment has caused most of the payroll reductions in manufacturing.

Nonmanufacturing employment declined to 121,100, down from the revised October estimate of 123,500. The closing of the 1985 racing season is the primary reason for moderate job losses in the services segment of nonmanufacturing. Construction employment fell to 9,100, down from 9,600 in October. Mining employment dropped from 4,700 last month to 4,500. Transportation and public utilities also experienced an employment decline of 200 during the past month. The only employment gain in nonmanufacturing occurred in government. The current estimate of 25,800 is up from the revised October estimate of 25,700.

Recent layoffs in the Shreveport area has reduced the number of production workers to 13,300. These production workers had average weekly earnings of $393.47, down from $409.50 last month and $425.98 one year ago. The average weekly hours dropped to 38.5, slightly less than 39.0 for last month, and 41.6 one year ago. The average hourly earnings at $10.22 is $0.28 less than last month and is nearly unchanged from November, 1984.

The Shreveport labor area has a civilian labor force of 164,100, including 147,000 employed and 17,100 unemployed. The current unemployment rate is 10.4 percent.

The unemployment total for this area will likely rise above the present level during the next 60 to 90 days. Adverse weather conditions will cause a decline in construction, lumber and wood products and other outdoor activities.